

§ 1700.3

under the auspices of a qualifying institution and that the records are not sought for a commercial use but are sought to further scholarly research.

(3) *Noncommercial scientific institution:* An institution that is not operated on a commercial basis, as that term is defined in paragraph (h)(1) of this section, and that is operated solely for the purpose of conducting scientific research the results of which are not intended to promote any particular product or industry. To be in this category, a requester must show that the request is authorized by and is made under the auspices of a qualifying institution and that the records are not sought for a commercial use but are sought to further scientific research.

(4) *Representative of the news media:* An individual actively gathering news for an entity that is organized and operated to publish and broadcast news to the public and pursuant to the entity's news dissemination function and not its commercial interests; the term "news" means information which concerns current events, would be of current interest to the general public, would enhance the public understanding of the operations or activities of the U.S. Government, and is in fact disseminated to a significant element of the public at minimal cost; freelance journalists are included in this definition if they provide sufficient evidence to justify an expectation of publication through such an organization, even though not actually employed by it; a publication contract or prior publication record is relevant to such status;

(5) *All other:* A request from an individual not within paragraphs (h)(1), (2), (3), or (4) of this section;

(i) *Freedom of Information Act, "FOIA,"* or "the Act" means the statute as codified at 5 U.S.C. 552;

(j) *ODNI* means the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and its component organizations. It does not include other members of the Intelligence Community as defined in 50 U.S.C. 401a, or other federal entities subsequently designated in accordance with this authority, unless specifically designated as included in this Part or in the notice of a system of records;

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(k) *Potential requester* means a person, organization, or other entity who submits an expression of interest.

§ 1700.3 Contact for general information and requests.

For general information on this Part, to inquire about the FOIA program at ODNI, or to file a FOIA request (or expression of interest), please direct communication in writing to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Chief FOIA Officer c/o Director, Information Management Office, Washington, DC 20511 by mail or by facsimile at (703) 482-2144. FOIA requests can also be submitted by electronic mail to *FOIA @ dni.gov*. For general information or status information on pending cases only, call the ODNI FOIA Customer Service Center at (571) 204-4774.

§ 1700.4 Preliminary information.

Members of the public shall address all communications to the point of contact specified in § 1700.3 and clearly delineate the communication as a request under the FOIA. ODNI staff who receive a FOIA request shall expeditiously forward the request to the Director, Information Management Office (IMO). Requests and appeals (as well as referrals and consultations) received from FOIA requesters who owe outstanding fees for information services at this or other federal agencies will not be accepted and action on all pending requests shall be terminated in such circumstances.

§ 1700.5 Requirements as to form and content.

(a) *Required information.* No particular form is required. A request must reasonably describe the record or records being sought and be submitted in accordance with this regulation. Documents must be described sufficiently to enable a staff member familiar with the subject to locate the documents with a reasonable amount of effort. Whenever possible, your request should include specific information about each record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipient, and the subject matter of the record. As a general rule, the more specific you are about the records or type of records